



Press Release

For Immediate Release

April 22, 2008

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California Signs First-of-its-Kind Agreement with United Nations in China

*California Asked to Provide Climate Program
Model for Chinese States*

SACRAMENTO – On behalf of California, Governor Schwarzenegger's Secretary for Environmental Protection Linda Adams today signed a first-of-its-kind agreement with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), a subsidiary organ of the United Nations, to support China's efforts to address climate change.

"We're honored that the United Nations has asked California to serve as a model for climate action programs," said Secretary Adams. "California has a long history of environmental leadership and we're looking forward to working with the United Nations and Chinese officials to implement strategies that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions while supporting China's continued economic growth."

As part of the UNDP's ongoing work with the Chinese government, the organization asked California to serve as a climate program model to provincial governments. California has agreed to share valuable information, such as academic research, effective policy initiatives, lessons learned and technological innovation. Specifically, the agreement's key components include:

- Coordinate on activities that support the development of national and local strategies and actions for climate change mitigation and adaptation in China.
- Communicate regularly with officials to share valuable information to help integrate best practices from the California climate change strategy.
- Help mobilize support from public and private partners in California to support climate change strategies.

Governor Schwarzenegger issued the following statement about the agreement: "California alone cannot solve climate change-this is a global problem that requires a global solution. America has to lead, and we are doing so even with or without Washington. California is not waiting for the federal government to take action but instead we are forming agreements and building relationships with countries like China to fight climate change."

California has a history of collaborating with China on environmental programs. In November 2005, during Governor Schwarzenegger's trade mission to China, the former Cal/EPA Secretary signed an environmental agreement with the Beijing

Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau to promote scientific and technical cooperation to help improve air quality and water quality.

Last year the Agreement was amended, signed by Secretary Linda Adams, to include more specific support and collaboration with the California Air Resources Board for air quality improvement policies. Since the Agreement was signed there have been numerous visits in each direction to provide technical training and deeper explanations of successful policies in California that could be integrated into Beijing.

The California Environmental Protection Agency is charged with developing, implementing and enforcing the state's environmental protection laws that ensure clean air, clean water, clean soil, safe pesticides and waste recycling and reduction. Our departments are at the forefront of environmental science, using cutting-edge research to shape the state's environmental laws.

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